

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/988,940

Examiner

Toan D. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

KENDALL ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/6/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11, 7, 39, 18, 3, 4, 10, 24, 34, 16, 17, 40, 26, 35 are renumbered 1-14, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/6/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Richard A. Johnson on June 06, 2007.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 24 line 15, the limitation "the at least one of the channels," has been replaced by --- the at least one of the N first direction channels, ---.

In claim 39 line 1, the limitation "Data transmission apparatus according to" has been replaced by --- The data transmission apparatus of ---.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 11, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
the transmitter on the second card comprises a second transmit interface for transmitting a second data stream comprising a second sequence of fixed-size second packets to the line card, the second transmit interface comprising:

a second demultiplexer connected to receive the second data stream and to split the second data stream by delivering the second packets in rotation into a

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second plurality of N second channels so that each said second channel carries every Nth second packet;

a plurality of second serializer devices, each second serializer device connected to receive the second packets of a corresponding one of the N second channels and to output the second packets as serial data on one or more second serial data connections over the mid-plane to the line card; and

a second transmit control circuit connected to the second serializer devices, the second transmit control circuit configured to cause the second serializer devices to output the second packets of the second data stream in sequence and staggered in time relative to one another by a time difference AT, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Regarding claim 18, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:

for each second direction channel, a second direction serializer device connected to receive the second direction packets of the second direction channel and to output the second direction packets as second direction serial data on one or more second direction serial data connections extending from the fabric interface card, through the midplane, to the line card;

a second transmit control circuit connected to the second direction serializer devices, the second transmit control circuit configured to cause the second direction serializer devices to output the second direction packets in sequence order with commencement of transmission of second direction packets on different second direction channels staggered in time relative to one another by a time difference AT;

a plurality of second deserializer devices at the line card, the second deserializer devices connected to receive and deserialize the second direction serial data on the second direction serial data connections; and

a second direction receive control circuit connected to detect an order of arrival of second direction packets on the second direction serial data connections and to place the second direction packets into a second direction received data stream in the order of arrival of the second direction packets, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3153. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00AM-4:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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